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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/766,758	01/27/2004	Robert Jensen	021751-000710US	2259
68218	7590	08/24/2007		
TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW, LLP/PIXAR			EXAMINER	
TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER			PHAM, MICHAEL	
EIGHTH FLOOR				
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111-3834			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2167	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			08/24/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Interview Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/766,758	JENSEN ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Michael D. Pham <i>M.P.</i>	2167	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Michael D. Pham.

(3) Andrew Lee (reg. 60, 371).

(2) Cam Y Truong.

(4) Bart Sullivan and Robert Jensen.

Date of Interview: 22 August 2007.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference  
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☒ applicant 2) ☒ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☐ No.

If Yes, brief description: \_\_\_\_\_.

Claim(s) discussed: Independent. I.

Identification of prior art discussed: Szabo.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☒ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Applicants' discussed the invention with respect to the claims, and explained the novelty of the invention. The proposed amendments and arguments proposed by Applicants' appear to overcome the cited reference. Further consideration and/or search would be required.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

*Cam Y Truong*  
Examiner's signature, if required

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**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

Date: <b>August 21, 2007</b>	Client & Matter Number: <b>021751-000710US</b>	No. Pages (including this one): <b>4</b>
To: <b>Examiner Michael Pham U.S. Patent &amp; Trademark Office</b>	At Fax Number: <b>1-571-273-3924</b>	Confirmation Phone Number:
From: <b>Andrew J. Lee</b>		<b>(3778)</b>

**Message:** Please see the attached informal communication

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# Informal Communication

To: Examiner Michael Pham  
Fax: 571-273-3924

From: Andrew Lee (Reg. No. 60,371), 650-324-6351  
Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP

Date: August 21, 2007

Re: Application No. 10/766,758 filed January 27, 2004  
Proposed Agenda for Interview Scheduled for August 22, 2007, 11:00AM  
PST (2:00PM EST)

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Examiner Pham:

As per our telephone conversation on August 17, 2007, please find below an outline of the points I propose to discuss in an interview for the above referenced application.

## I. Section 102(e) Rejection of Independent Claim 1

### A. Proposed amendments to Claim 1

1. (Currently Amended) A method for a computer system comprises  
comprising:  
opening a first file describing a first object in an object environment running on the computer system, the first file including a specification of a first object;  
determining, from the specification of the first object, a reference ~~for~~ to a second object, ~~wherein the second object includes a first plurality of public attributes and a second plurality of private attributes;~~  
receiving a second file ~~describing the second object from a storage system;~~ in response to the reference ~~to the second object,~~ the second file including a specification of the second object, the specification of the second object including information identifying a plurality of public attributes of the second object and a plurality of private attributes of the second object;  
opening the second file ~~describing the second object in the object environment;~~  
determining a modified value for a public attribute ~~from the first plurality of public attributes for~~ of the second object; and  
including, in the first file, the reference ~~for~~ to the second object and the modified value for the public attribute of the second object;  
wherein the specification of the second object is not stored in the first file; and  
wherein values for the second plurality of private attributes of the second object cannot be modified by users of the first file.

61129909 v1

To: Examiner Michael Pham  
Fax: 571-273-3924  
From: Andrew Lee (Reg. No. 60,371), 650-324-6351

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**B. Features of the present invention**

1. Embodiments of the present invention provide techniques for building computer graphics models that incorporate shared components
2. One aspect of the present invention is the definition of public and private attributes for a shared component
  - a) A public attribute is an attribute of the shared component whose value may be overridden by users (*e.g.*, modelers) that reference the shared component in a model
  - b) A private attribute is an attribute of the shared component whose value cannot be changed by users that reference the shared component in a model
3. In one set of embodiments, information identifying the public and private attributes of a shared component (*i.e.*, which attributes are public and which attributes are private) is included as part of the specification of the shared component
  - a) In this manner, a creator of the shared component may control how downstream users use the shared component in their models

**C. Distinguishing features of claim 1, as amended, over Szabo (U.S. Patent No. 6,768,486)**

1. Amended claim 1 recites, in part "receiving a second file in response to the reference to the second object, the second file including a specification of the second object, the specification of the second object including information identifying... a plurality of private attributes of the second object" wherein "values for the plurality of private attributes of the second object cannot be modified by users of the first file."

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2. The Office Action asserts that Szabo discloses private attributes of a second (*i.e.*, shared) object because Szabo describes inserting an "XModifier" 302 into modifier stack 214: "XModifier data 350 causes an XTC object to be associated with the geometry object. . . the XTC object can take appropriate actions, such as to ensure that certain defined properties and/or constraints are allowed to flow up the modifier stack and/or to influence changes that are made by higher-ordered components within the modifier stack." (Szabo: col. 19, lines 33-57).
3. The Office Action asserts that "the 'constraints' are interpreted to be essentially the same as private attributes." (Office Action: pg. 3).
4. However, nowhere does Szabo disclose or suggest that XModifier 302 or its corresponding constraints are included as part of the specification of base geometry object 224
  - a) As best understood, XModifier 302 is simply another modifier component (such as taper modifier 228 and bend modifier 226) that may be applied by a user on top of base geometry object 224 in modifier stack 214 to generate a derived object
  - b) Thus, XModifier 302 and its corresponding constraints are defined by a user during the process of creating a derived object from a base object; XModifier 302 is not included in the specification the base geometry object itself
5. Further, Szabo fails to disclose or suggest "wherein values for the plurality of private attributes of the second object cannot be modified by users of the first file" as recited in amended claim 1
6. As described above, XModifier 302 is simply a stack component that is defined by a user that is referencing base geometry object 224 to create a derived object (*e.g.*, user of the first file)
  - a) The user is free to remove XModifier 302 from modifier stack 214, or relocate it to a different position within the stack. (Szabo: col. 20, lines 48-62)
  - b) Accordingly, the user may freely modify or eliminate the constraints imposed by XModifier 302